

## Message Text

SECRET

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70

ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 IO-03 AF-04 NEA-06 NSC-10 NSCE-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PM-03 DODE-00 PRS-01

EA-13 ACDA-10 OMB-01 L-02 SPC-01 DRC-01 /091 W

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P R 191855Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4210

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY BONN

S E C R E T 27389

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, XF, FR

SUBJECT: ME: FRENCH VIEWS OCTOBER 19

1. QUAI MIDDLE EAST DEPUTY DIRECTOR ROUILLON AND HIS ASSISTANT FOR ARAB-ISRAELI AFFAIRS BELLEISSUE BRIEFED EMBOFF OCTOBER 19 ON CURRENT FRENCH VIEWS RE ME. QUAI EMPHASIZES, IN LIGHT JOBERT'S STATEMENT TO NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OCTOBER 17, THAT FRENCH ME POLICY HAS NOT CHANGED AND REMAINS ROOTED IN UNSC RES 242. FRENCH HAVE DALY EXCHANGES WITH THEIR EIGHT EUROPEAN COMMUNITY PARTNERS AS WELL AS SEPARATE BILATERAL CONTACTS WITH GERMANS AND ESPECIALLY THE BRITISH TO HARMONIZE THEIR ATTITUDES TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE.

2. ROUILLON SAID JOBERT, IN TALKING TO PRC VICE FOREIGN MINISTER AT UNGA, HAD DISCUSSED ME CRISIS IN GENERAL TERMS BUT HAD NOT PROBED CONCERNING CHINA'S ATTITUDE TOWARD TURNING FOUR-POWER TALKS ON ME INTO FIVE-POWER FORUM. QUAI WAS SURPRISED BY JOBERT'S STATEMENT OCTOBER 17 THAT HE PERSONALLY HAD NEVER FAVORED FOUR-POWER TALKS; THEY WERE UNABLE TO SPECULATE ON WHAT THIS MIGHT MEAN FOR THE FUTURE, BUT ASSUME THAT JOBERT

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WOULD AGREE TO THE TALKS IF US AND SOVIETS FAVOR THEM,

REGARDLESS OF WHETHER FOUR OR FIVE ATTENDED.

3. REGARDING THEIR CONTACTS WITH SOVIETS, QUAI MENTIONED POINTS MADE TO AMBASSADOR VIMONT BY GROMYKO OCTOBER 17. (MOSCOW 12971). GROMYKO EMPHASIZED THAT TOTAL WITHDRAWAL WAS ESSENTIAL ELEMENT OF ANY SOLUTION AND THAT THERE WERE NO CURRENT PROSPECTS FOR CEASEFIRE BECAUSE DIVERGENT DEMANDS OF PARTIES ARE IRRECONCILABLE. ADDITIONAL POINTS MADE BY GROMYKO TO VIMONT WERE THAT SOVIETS WILL FULLY SUPPORT ARAB ACTIONS TO LIBERATE THEIR OWN TERRITORIES, AND THAT SOVIETS WILL NOT SUPPORT ARABS GOING BEYOND SUCH LIBERATION. FINALLY, GROMYKO ASSURED VIMONT THAT GOF NEED NOT FEAR ANY MODIFICATION THESE ELEMENTS OF ITS POLICY. (COMMENT: MANNER IN WHICH THIS POINT WAS MADE TO EMBOFF WOULD SEEM TO INDICATE GOF IS PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE TO POSSIBILITY OF BEING FACED WITH FAIT ACCOMPLI IN THE FORM OF AN UNEXPECTED CHANGE OF POLICY BY ONE OF THE MAJOR POWERS.)

4. OUR QUAI CONTACTS CONTINUE TO INSIST THERE IS NO GOF PLAN FOR OVERALL ME SETTLEMENT OR PROPOSAL FOR PROCEDURAL FRAMEWORK FOR NEGOTIATIONS. THEY INDICATE THAT QUAI COULD DRAFT SUCH PLAN OR PROPOSAL RAPIDLY IF REQUESTED; THEY ARE AFRAID OF HAVING THEIR IDEAS REJECTED, HOWEVER. FURTHER PROBING REVEALS THE FOLLOWING ELEMENTS OF A PROCEDURAL PROPOSAL WHICH QUAI HAS OBVIOUSLY BEEN WORKING OUT, ON A CONTINGENCY BASIS, ALMOST CERTAINLY IN CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH UK AND PROBABLY FRG. THIS PROCEDURAL PROPOSAL IS FOR "ME CONFERENCE," PROBABLY WITH UNSYG WALDHEIM PLAYING SUBSTANTIAL ROLE, THOUGH NOT NECESSARILY WITHIN UN FRAMEWORK. PARTICIPANTS WOULD INCLUDE PERMANENT UNSC MEMBERS, PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT, AND POSSIBLY "OTHERS." ONLY INDICATION WE CAN GET FROM THE QUAI AS TO WHICH "OTHERS" ARE BEING CONSIDERED IS GERMANY, ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT CLEAR BONN HAS EXPRESSED SUCH DESIRE. QUAI, WITH AN EYE TO ITS ARAB CLIENTS, WOULD CHARACTERIZE THESE AS "INDIRECT" NEGOTIATIONS. THEY REMAIN SKEPTICAL OF INDICATIONS THAT ARABS MIGHT BE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS WITH ISRAELIS. VARIOUS FRENCH AMBASSADORS HAVE BEEN TOLD BY ARAB AMBASSADORS OF SUCH WILLINGNESS, BUT QUAI STILL MAINTAINS THERE IS NO CONVINCING INDICATION OF SUCH ARAB POLICY CHANGE, WHICH STRENGTHENS THEIR INTEREST IN THE

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ABOVE PROCEDURAL IDEA.  
IRWIN

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** WAR, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, PEACE PLANS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 OCT 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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